Statewide Data Program Needs Assessment

Climate Change Program

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Program Description

The Climate Change Program is an advisory program to other DWR programs. It is a matrix program, with people in various offices and programs. As such, it does not do any analysis or data collection itself. Other programs do the data collection and analysis.

Data Needs

John suggested that we take advantage of previous thinking on the data needs of DPLA. That was good work and should be expanded upon.

John suggested talking with the new Sustainability coordinator for DWR.

The Climate Change Program does not collect data or need data. Programs that do evaluate the impact of climate change on their missions would need:

Precipitation data Temperature data Soil moisture data

These programs would also need more parameters collected at more locations, and with a greater frequency and accuracy, than is currently done. One of the needs is just to have the data.

The Climate Change Program would like to take large scale models, and produce more local results. Each of the models has its own data needs. These models would generally run at the watershed level. The Program is funding studies in the Feather River watershed to evaluate the impacts of climate change on the State Water Project.

DWR measures snow pack data, but John does not know if it is used. In most cases, the runoff and stream flow measurements are used. If so, then why collect the snow pack data? We should work on getting the snow pack data into the system, and figuring

out what it tells us. Would the snow pack be a valid indicator for water supply? Do we know how climate change will affect the snow pack?

Data Management

There is a need to know who is working on what. It is hard to know what gaps there are without an assessment of what is happening now.

Unmet Needs

Data is being under-collected.

As stated above, there is a need to know what is collected where.

There is a need to understand the impact of sea level rise on the Delta. Most of the studies stop at the coastline. There is little or no analysis of how the rise propagates into the Bay and Delta. Also, how and where this impact should be monitored in the Delta.

Apportioning Costs

Data is used by many programs throughout the Department and State. Without basic data, many programs would be stranded.

Beneficiary pays is the way to go. If you do not pay for the data, then you do not get to use the data.

Another idea would be to put data collection on overhead; but just the core data program.

The State Water Project should pay for some of the data collection program. It benefits them.

Other Issues

Curtis and I should talk to the Sustainability Coordinator about performance measures. Those measures will require tracking data.

We should also talk to Mike Anderson, and ask him about who does collect and use climate data and models.

We should talk to John Angstrom about what the Department is doing to meet its obligations under AB 37.